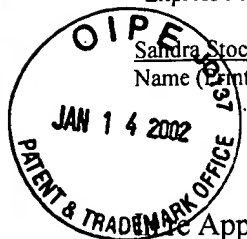


01/16/02 1772  
Date January 14, 2002 Label No. EV041600830US

I hereby certify that, on the date indicated above, I deposited this paper with identified attachments and/or fee with the U.S. Postal Service and that it was addressed for delivery to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 by "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service.



Sandra Stocklinski  
Name (Print)

Sandra Stocklinski  
Signature

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Chen et al.

Application No.: 09/630,121

Filed: August 1, 2000

Group Art Unit: 1772

Examiner: Unassigned

For: THERMOPLASTIC PLANKS AND METHODS FOR MAKING THE SAME

#4  
1-25-02  
RECEIVED  
JAN 22 2002  
TC 1700

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(b)**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

January 14, 2002

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the document listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. One copy of this document is attached.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted after expiration of the three month period following filing of the above-captioned application, but prior to issuance of a first official action on the merits.

Should a first Office Action cross in the mail with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement, then applicants respectfully petition under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d) to consider the documents set forth in the Information Disclosure Statement.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. See 37 CFR 1.104(a) and 1.106(b) concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists

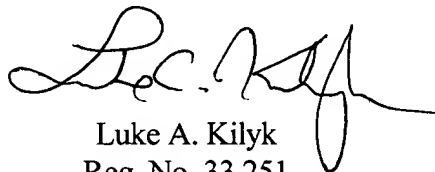
Information Disclosure Statement  
U.S. Patent Application No. 09/630,121

and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in this application and applicant determines that the cited document(s) do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicant reserves the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed document, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

It is believed that no fee is required to make this a complete and timely filing. However, if it is determined that a petition or fee is required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee associated with this statement to our Deposit Account No. 50-0925 and please consider this a petition.

Respectfully submitted,



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